

News Release

National Wildlife Refuge System



Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge

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Trempealeau, WI 54661

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**National Wildlife Refuge Week, October 9–15,
Celebrates Conservation Lands Vital to People,
Join Us for Two Special Events**

National Wildlife Refuge Week reminds Americans how nature enriches our lives and adds to the beauty of our country. What better time to celebrate that connection with the natural world and two of our very own national wildlife refuges; Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge and Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge!

Celebrated during the second full week of October since 1996, Refuge Week highlights the National Wildlife Refuge System – the network of lands and waters that protect wildlife and their habitats.

National wildlife refuges have been part of America's proud natural heritage since the first refuge was established in 1903. They enrich human lives and help conserve wildlife, protect against erosion and flooding and purify our air and water. As a benefit to the economy, they generate over \$2.4 billion dollars and support more than 35,000 jobs.

Two special events are being offered during national wildlife refuge week that might spark an interest to come out and enjoy your refuges.

At Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, join us to hear from Ellen McDonah, artist, kayaker, teacher, and writer. Ellen was the first woman to solo kayak the entire Mississippi River. Ellen will be sharing her story about kayaking down the Mississippi River on Wednesday, October 12th, at the Outdoor Wonders Learning Center located at the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, right next to the visitor center. Her program begins at 6:30 pm with her book, "One Woman's River" for sale after the event. Plan for some time to enjoy the refuge beforehand! Special thanks to the Friends of Trempealeau Refuge for making this event possible.

For more information about this event, contact the Refuge at (608) 539-2311 or stop in at the Refuge office M-F, from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. Information may also be found on the Refuge's webpage:

<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/trempealeau/>.

Connect with our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TrempealeauNWR/>

Down river, perhaps another daring event may spark your interest in our natural world...the Third Annual Creepy Critters Special Event! Anyone who dares to learn about bats, frogs, lamprey, moths, owls, snakes, spiders and more is invited to attend a free "Creepy Critters" trick-or-treat event on Wednesday, October 12th starting at 4:00 p.m. at the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Visitor Center located on Brice Prairie. This slightly scary adventure is appropriate for children and adults of all ages. Costumes are encouraged! Event activities will be held both indoors and outdoors; participants are asked to dress accordingly.

For more information about this event, contact the La Crosse District Office at (608) 779-2399 or visit the facility located at N5727 County Road Z, Onalaska, WI. Information may also be found on the Refuge's webpage:

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/upper_mississippi_river/. Connect with our Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/UpperMissNWFR>.